



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK

The City of Tucson will honor their Public Safety Dispatchers, 911 Operators, and Police Service Operators during National Telecommunications Week, April 14 - 20, 2013.

A proclamation from the Mayor and Council has been issued recognizing April 14 - 20, 2013 as National Telecommunications Week. This week is dedicated to public safety telecommunicators who aid in providing 911 emergency assistance to citizens everywhere. Specifically, we will honor emergency telecommunicators who work for the City of Tucson's General Services Department Communications Division and the Tucson Police Department Communications Division.

Introduced to Congress in 1991 by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International, **National Public Safety Communications Week** is held during the second week in April each year. The term "9-1-1" is often associated with rapid emergency response, poise under pressure, aid and compassion in times of distress, and critical decision-making within seconds.

In Tucson and throughout this region, these individuals are indeed the 'FIRST' first-responders to citizens in distress. Annually, the Police Communications Division handles 550,000 calls for service. Every day, thousands of people in our communities depend upon the skill, expertise, commitment and compassion of our Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services dispatchers, and call-takers. They are trained to be prepared for the unexpected and unimaginable. These professionals make the difference between life and death in many instances.

Please join us in recognizing and celebrating the dedicated service provided by Tucson's telecommunicators.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipació.